

**LOUISIANA TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2003**

Chairman Chad McGee called meeting to order. Members present were Butch Speer, Jerry Guillot, Bob Harper, Dom Cali and Chairman Chad McGee. Quorum was established.

Chairman McGee explained there were 14 proposals and total of proposals exceeded balance of money in the fund. He stated the council would hear each proposal. After a recess for lunch, the council will reconvene and vote on proposals.

**Presentations:**

**03-001-Department of Public Safety-“Active Directory”  
Presented by: Rex McDonald**

Proposal will provide for the statewide implementation of Active Directory. Project goal is to provide for the smooth transition of state agencies into the la.gov forest. The Active Directory’s benefits include manageability, security, and interoperability. Also reduces the costs and time associated with upgrades and new installs.

Active Directory provide for central management of Windows users, clients, and servers through a single consistent management interface, thereby reducing redundancy and maintenance costs.

Questions were inaudible on tape.

**03-002-Department of Revenue-“Uniform Local Sales Tax Code (UTC) Electronic Return and Remittance System”  
Presented by: Steve Hymel**

Goal of project is to create a technologically advanced electronic filing system for local sales and use taxes in Louisiana that will be easier for dealers to use than the present system of paper filing and payment, and that will meet the needs of local governments by providing them with revenues and tax filing information efficiently and on a timely basis.

The systems will enable dealers to electronically file local sales and use returns and submit payments. This approach will enable the department to receive the returns and payments; and immediately retransmit them to the appropriate local sales tax authorities. This will be a new and innovative system for the centralized electronic filing and payment through a web site to be hosted by the Department of Revenue, and for the department’s transmission of funds and return filing information to local sales tax collecting authorities.

Questions were inaudible on tape.

**03-003-Louisiana State University-“Exploiting Linux Services in Louisiana”**

**Presented by: Ron Hay**

LSU is requesting \$999,768 to develop a robust, scalable environment to accelerate and facilitate the evaluation and deployment of Linux services and applications within public-supported entities in Louisiana. Linux is the leading example of open source software that implements open standards. Intent of proposal is to maximize the opportunity to accelerate innovation with Linux, to limit dependence on proprietary systems and to focus on total cost of ownership issues. Initial goal will be to create a production Linux server tested in early 2004 to provide an established environment for State agencies to evaluate potential Linux system software and applications; provide a pilot line of service to implement common Linux-based functions including webserving, file and print serving, listserv support, virtual computers for classroom instruction, distributed data base serving, e-mail, server and workload consolidations, etc.

Mr. Hay stated LSU wanted to share resources with other state agencies.

J. Guillot asked is LSU had a letter of support from the Systems Office or Board of Regents. He stated no, but it would not be a problem to obtain those.

**03-004-Board of Regents-“Louisiana Enrollment Advancement Datamart (LEAD): A Data Warehouse Platform for Statewide Enrollment Advancement**

**Presented by: Gene Fields**

Proposal is to request funding for project to develop LEAD. The LEAD platform will serve as a planning and decision support data warehouse with associated analytical tools and enrollment management applications, empowering postsecondary education stakeholders to accomplish enrollment, retention and completion goals at each level.

Student enrollment, retention and completion data are currently submitted to the Board of Regents by universities and colleges throughout the state. The data submitted resides in DB2 databases at the Board of Regents that do not have easy queryable front-end interfaces or analytical tools. Developing a statewide enrollment data warehouse that captures and centralizes the aforementioned data from Louisiana institutions to monitor key enrollment and performance parameters at the state level is a necessary first step in the right decision.

B. Speer asked if other funding sources were utilized before submitting the proposal to the LTIF. Mr. Field stated no, but if proposal was not funded by the LTIF, they will utilize other sources.

### **03-005-DHH, Office of Management and Finance-“Web-based Contract Management System”**

**Presented by Madeline McAndrew**

**DHH, Office of Management and Finance is requesting \$138,600 annually for the next three years to implement and maintain a web-based centralized and consolidated approach for contract management for OMF, Office of the Secretary, Office of Addictive Disorders, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, Office of Mental Health and the Office of Public Health.**

**Ms. McAndrew stated the system could potentially eliminate the need for all Departments to send copies of contracts to the Division of Administration, as the Office of Contract Review would have the capability to review and approve all contracts on-line.**

**Projects has five primary goals:**

**1) to consolidate the location of all contracts to a centralized database; 2) reduce the timeframe and administrative cost for review and approval of all contracts; 3) provide management with the ability to review the entire contracts on-line; 4) provide management with the ability to query various reports to conduct analyzes relative to types of contractors, types of services being contracted, trends, work flow, etc. and 5) provide a ready available standardized boiler plate contract form, sample contracts and sample request for proposals for contract initiators.**

**At the present time, the current contract process can take any where from one week to six months to complete. Reviews and approvals are conducted at various steps in the contract process. Through an automated contract management system, all internal reviews can be done simultaneously, corrections made and sent to all parties rather than under the current system where the contract could be sent back to the contract initiator at each review step in the process.**

### **03-006-Depts. of Environmental Quality, Natural Resources, Transportation and Development and Wildlife and Fisheries-“Development of Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans in DEQ, DNR, DOTD, and DWF Using Specialized Planning and Mitigation Software**

**Presented by: Rizwan Ahmed**

**Mr. Ahmed stated purpose of proposal is to involve the use of information technology and computer security consulting services assistance to the above-mentioned agencies in the usage of planning and mitigation software being purchased by the Division of Administration. These agencies would develop Business Continuity Plans (BCP) and Disaster Recovery Plans (DRP) using this software, guided by the expertise of the**

computer security specialists. This project will also support the state emergency operations plan by enabling departments to become proactive in disaster mitigation.

Each of the four departments would utilize 750 hours of consulting services, or a total of 3,000 hours, at an estimated cost of \$125 an hour. Total funding request is \$375,000. Consulting services would be procured via the State's CSSA contract procurement mechanism.

Mr. Ahmed stated the project would involve the use of sophisticated planning and mitigation software, to be purchased by the DOA and funded by the Office of Emergency Preparedness, to accomplish the development of a BCP and DRP for state departments. The project would fund security specialists and consultants to work with the four departments and their staffs to develop the plans using the software.

### **03-007-LCTCS-"Moving Student Administrative Services to the Next Level"**

**Presented by: James Hobbs**

Mr. Hobbs stated LCTCS in partnership with 4 of its 7 community colleges, its 40 technical colleges and its 2 technical/community colleges are submitting this request for a project to provide internet based student administrative services (student records, registration, student finances, advisement, recruitment and financial aid) to the students, faculty, and staff of the LCTCS as well as the citizens of Louisiana.

LCTCS proposes a 12-month project to upgrade its PeopleSoft client/server platform to PeopleSoft's Pure Internet Student Administration platform to manage the entire life cycle of LCTCS students, faculty and staff over the Internet. Amount of funds requested is \$1,000,000 and estimated operational date is fall semester 2004 with pilot launched for summer semester 2004.

Mr. Hobbs further stated goals of the project are 1) to provide a one-stop shopping and provision of services accessible to all through a common gateway portal accessible via Internet browser; 2) to ensure that the aforementioned services are available reliably 24 by 7; 3) to establish a unified technical platform capable of supporting and sustaining the missions of both technical and community colleges and 4) streamline student administration service delivery in a manner conducive increased student and citizen satisfaction. He further stated the proposal is a use of innovative technology in its approach to making student administrative services readily and reliably available to the LCTCS audience primarily because of its Pure Internet Architecture.

C. McGee asked if this would help students in rural areas also. Mr. Hobbs stated yes.

### **03-008-DOTD-"Internet-based, Wireless Diagnostics and Predictive Modeling System for Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) Vehicle and Equipment Assets"**

**Presented by: Mark Suarez**

**Mr. Suarez stated DOTD is requesting \$444,500 from the LTIF for the implementation of an Internet-based, wireless diagnostics and predictive modeling system for vehicles and equipment. The proposed system utilizes telematics which combines telecommunications and informatics, a short form of information technology, to wirelessly flow in-vehicle diagnostics to a centralized fleet management system. If necessary, the fleet system responds to incoming vehicle data by appropriately notifying operators, maintenance and management personnel, and relevant vendors via the Internet and field-based hardware devices. All data is stored in a central data warehouse for interrogation and predictive modeling. If funded, the system will be operational in all DOTD locations by July, 2004.**

**B. Harper asked if DOTD had ever received funding from the LTIF. M. Suarez stated no.**

**03-009-DHH, Bureau of Health Services Financing-“Pharmacy Compliance Audit Function”**

**Presented by: Ben Bearden and M. J. Terrebonne**

**DHH, Pharmacy Benefits Management Unit, in partnership with UNO, is submitting this request for a project intended to provide an innovative, more cost effective way to perform the federally mandated pharmacy audit/review function and third party liability recovery functions. The users being served will be the taxpayers of Louisiana, Medicaid recipients, pharmacy providers, rebate auditors, and drug manufacturers. The technology being applied is Microsoft Standard Query Language (SQL) Server 2000 Analysis services and data warehouse. The amount of funds requested is \$508,746 with a planned operational date of January 1, 2004.**

**Purpose of the federally mandated pharmacy audit function is to assure that Medicaid providers are billing claims in compliance with state and federal regulations. Proposal would completely change the business process by which the pharmacy audit function is performed. Changes affected would be 1) change in type of auditing; 2) timeliness; 3) better use of field audit dollars and 4) coordination of Third Party Liability (TPL) Recovery.**

**03-010-DHH, Office of Public Health-“Molluscan Shellfish Harvest Site Locator Classification, Charting, and Regulation of Louisiana Oyster Production Zones with Global Position System Technology”**

**Presented by: Bobby Savoie**

**B. Savoie stated DHH, Office of Public Health, along with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana oyster industry through the La. Oyster Task Force, is submitting this request for a project intended to make use of pocket personal computers (pocket pc's) to capitalize on geographical information system (GIS) and global position system (GPS) technology to local potential oyster harvest areas along our vanishing coastal waters. It is envisioned that the technology will serve the informational needs of all aforementioned parties, and be applied to oyster harvesting locations in Louisiana's coastal waters. Grant money would purchase the pocket pc equipment for both agencies, pilot the use of pc units by the oyster fishermen, and fund the software development and integration by a contractor. Pocket pc would combine the oyster lease maps maintained by Wildlife & Fisheries and the harvest area classification maps produced by DHH into a GIS that could be used by the entire oyster industry and other state agencies. Greatest value would be to give exact GPS locations on the reference map when used in coastal waters. This would provide oyster harvest vessels operating in the Gulf of Mexico with the ability to easily and accurately locate their harvest lease and determine if the waters are open for harvest. PC's would also be used by field staff for compiling reports exclusive to Wildlife and Fisheries and for shellfish surveys and sample collection exclusive to DHH. Grant funds would also be applied to fund any expenses incurred to ensure that the GIS systems are interagency-compatible. Request of funding is \$252,840.**

**D. Cali asked B. Savoie if they had talked to oyster fishermen regarding this project. Mr. Savoie stated yes and they were supportive.**

### **03-011-McNeese State University-"Teaching and Learning E-Center"**

**Presented by: H. Ware and M. Graham**

**McNeese State University is requesting \$966,555 in funds to support a Teaching and Learning E-Center designed to enhance reading and math skills in the traditionally underserved populations and to foster innovative teaching using multimedia technologies including distance education media. Reengineering of the network and the addition of an e-portal will create a unified campus infrastructure and propel McNeese to the forefront of technology in the state. The Teacher and Learning E-Center will house state of the art computers, software, scanners, digital cameras, and other multimedia technology. The center and specialists will provide ongoing support and training to instructors as they continue to move toward helping higher education students develop critical Internet and technology literacy.**

**J. Guillot asked if McNeese had letters of support from University of Louisiana System's office. M. Graham stated no but was sure it would not be a problem to obtain. Mr. Guillot also asked if there was 8G money available to which they replied no.**

### **03-012-Board of Regents-"LOGAN: Louisiana Online Grant Automation Network"**

**Presented by: Dr. Michael Khonsari**

**La. Board of Regents, in partnership with all La. universities, is submitting a request for the creation of LOGAN, Louisiana Online Grant Automation Network, to provide for the complete automation of grant-related activities that includes program announcements, electronic submission of proposals, external reviews, system award notifications, report submissions, and project evaluations. LOGAN will be housed on Unix servers and built using Informix's Internet Foundation 2000 database. The Board of Regents is requesting \$101,500 to create and implement LOGAN, which will be instrumental in creating a paperless environment. The implementation of LOGAN will occur in several different phases beginning in January, 2004.**

**LOGAN will be an Internet/Web based system that allows clients to conduct business electronically with the Bd. of Regents. The purpose of LOGAN will be to enhance efficiency through the use of the World-Wide Web by facilitating transactions between the Bd. of Regents and the State's colleges and universities. Individuals will sign on to the system and send/receive their transactions daily to/from the Bd. of Regents. LOGAN will significantly improve the exchange of information between the Bd. of Regents and its client community including researchers, reviewers, research administrators, and others doing business with the agency. LOGAN will also enable the Bd. of Regents to provide higher quality service to its customers and user community.**

**J. Guillot asked if they were working with the Office of Contractual Review regarding electronic contracts and Dr. Khonsari stated they would talk to them regarding this.**

**03-013-Office of the Governor, Louisiana Children's Cabinet-"Towards and Integrated Juvenile Justice Information Systems (IJJIS)"**

**Presented by: Suzy Sonnier**

**The Children's Cabinet is submitting a proposal in the amount of \$339,335 to implement in the public domain an integrated, XML web-based Juvenile Offender Information Network (JOIN) system based on national standards that will enable data sharing among statewide and local juvenile justice agencies involved with juvenile delinquency, traffic, formal FINS, probation, detention, and corrections and that will provide the basis for creation of a total Integrated Juvenile Justice Information System (IJJIS). The JOIN system will be operational within 21 months of the grant award.**

**Goals of the project are 1) to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the processing of delinquency, traffic, and formal FINS cases by juvenile justice agencies at the local level through automated data sharing and case management; 2) to provide management information for statewide reporting, coordination, strategic planning, benchmarking, and evaluation of the juvenile justice system by the Children's Cabinet, the La. Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE); 3) the Supreme Court, and other bodies involved with**

juvenile justice reform and restructuring; and 3) to provide a catalyst for the development of a total Integrated Juvenile Justice Information System (IJJIS).

Outcomes of the projects will be improvement of the juvenile justice system's efficiency as measured by the reduction of redundant data entry, the achievement of economies of scale, and improvements in the accuracy, quality, and timeliness of data; making the system more clearer and more accountable to the public through the provision of outcome results, workload measures, and other statistical information via the web; reduction of delay in case processing through more effective case management by all juvenile justice agencies, especially with respect to scheduling, continuances, service of process, pre-trial processes, and dispositions.

### **03-014-Department of Economic Development-"The Louisiana Virtual Entrepreneurial Network"**

**Presented by: Arthur Cooper**

DED, in partnership with The Idea Village, is submitting proposal for a project intended to create a Virtual Entrepreneurial Network (VEN). Mr. Cooper stated the VEN's unique combination of entrepreneurial networks and virtual online tools builds customized development plans for entrepreneurs, connecting them to the appropriate existing resources in the public, private, non-profit and academic sectors. This allows for more efficient and business stage-appropriate linkages to potential service providers, advisors, and business partners. The LVE Network will make it easier for La. entrepreneurs to find resources and partners while starting up. It will also allow DED and state's universities through the Bd. of Regents a means of simplifying service and information delivery to entrepreneurs.

The LVNE, managed through Ideavillage.org, is an online tool that will connect La. entrepreneurs with the resources needed to grow their business. By using profiling technology, we will be able to match users to resources based on location, industry, significant demographic characteristics, and state of business development.

J. Guillot asked who would be the owner of the network. Mr. Cooper stated DED would own the code and license.

This ended all presentations. C. McGee stated there would be a 45-minute recess for lunch. At that time, the Council would reconvene and vote on awards.

Mr. McGee called the Council to order at 12:30. He opened the floor to the Council for awards. B. Harper made motion to fund LSU's proposal for "Exploiting Linux Services in Louisiana." J. Guillot seconded the motion, contingent upon letter of approval from the Board of Supervisors. C. McGee asked if there were any objections. With no objections, proposal was approved in the amount of \$999,768.



**C. McGee made motion to fund DEQ, DNR, and DOTD proposal “Development of Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans” in the amount of \$281,350. D. Cali seconded the motion. C. McGee asked if there were any objections, to which B. Speer stated yes. Mr. McGee called for a vote on the proposal. Votes were as follows: C.McGee-for; B. Harper-for; D. Cali-for;J. Guillot-for; B. Speer-against. With a vote of 4 yeas and 1 nay, proposal was approved in the amount of \$281,350.**

**J. Guillot made motion to fund DOTD proposal “Internet-based, Wireless Diagnostics and Predictive Modeling System.” B. Harper seconded motion. With no objections, proposal was funded for \$291,350.**

**C. McGee made motion to fund the Office of the Governor’s Children’s Cabinet proposal “Towards an Integrated Juvenile Justice Information System (IJJIS) up to the amount of \$335,000. B. Harper seconded motion. With no objections, proposal was funded up to the amount of \$335,000.**

**At this point, Mr. McGee stated with these awards the fund has been depleted. He stated if there were funds available in the future, it would be noted on the LTIF web site.**

**B. Harper made motion to adjourn the meeting and J. Guillot seconded motion.**

**C. McGee adjourned meeting.**